

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides nucleic acid ligands to hepatocyte growth factor/scatter factor (HGF) and its receptor c-met. The nucleic acid ligands of the instant invention are isolated using the SELEX method. SELEX is an acronym for Systematic Evolution of Ligands by  
5 EXponential enrichment. The nucleic acid ligands of the invention are useful as diagnostic and therapeutic agents for diseases in which elevated HGF and c-met activity are causative factors.

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